

Rusk Sternly Warns Indonesia To Keep Eyes off Philippines

By Warren Unna

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Secretary of State Dean

Rusk sternly warned Indonesia yesterday that it would be "reckless" for it ever to add the Philippines to its expansion list in Southeast Asia.

The Secretary did not mention Indonesia by name. But his remark came in answer to a question at his morning news conference that mentioned that the Philippines was concerned that it, just as Malaysia, might one day become a target for Indonesian infiltration.

Rusk declared: "Our own defense arrangements with the Philippines are very far-reaching, are without qualification . . . If there is an attack on the Philippines from any quarter, that is an attack on the United States. And I would think that it would be very reckless indeed for anyone to suppose that there is any doubt whatever about our commitment to the security of the Philippines."

Factors Behind Reply

Rusk is known for his caution and for never saying anything he does not have to. The Philippines has never publicly stated that it stands in fear of Indonesia. The bluntness of Rusk's reply to an undocumented question therefore might have been impelled by several factors. They are:

- The state visit of Philippine President Diosdado Macapagal here this week during which he reportedly did voice his serious concern

about Indonesia in his private talks with President Johnson.

- Indonesian President Sukarno's militant denunciation of the West at this week's conference of non-aligned nations in Cairo.

- Indonesian Defense Minister Gen. A. H. Nasution's radio broadcast on Tuesday in which he declared his country's "confrontation" policy against Malaysia would not end until Southeast Asia was freed of its foreign military bases.

Southeast Asia's foreign military bases consist of the British installations in Malaysia and the U.S. installations in the Philippines.

Joint Study Mentioned

In their White House communique Tuesday, Presidents Johnson and Macapagal mentioned a joint military study "to review existing programs, and to consider changes needed to achieve increased capability and flexibility in the Philippine response to aggression and threats of aggression."

Observers indicated that this was written to cover present events in South Vietnam as well as any future events concerning Indonesia.

Secretary Rusk also made these comments at his news conference yesterday:

- While the United States is not behind the insistence of Congolese Premier Moise Tshombe to be seated at the current Cairo nonalignment conference, it finds "some concern" with the precedent

that conference delegates should take it upon themselves "to determine who shall represent governments invited to the meeting."

- The United States assumes that the imminence of an atomic bomb test by Communist China should "be a matter of deep concern" to the Cairo conference nations and commends India for its "restraint" in insisting that Peking's capacity for nuclear development be confined to peaceful uses.